

Food Safety and Inspection Service Washington, D.C. 20250

SEP 1719 2002

Dr. Birgitte Povlsen, Head Division for Import and Export Danish Veterinary and Food Administration Moerkhoel Bygad 19 DK-2860 Soeborg Denmark

Dear Dr. Povlsen:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) conducted an on-site audit of Denmark's meat inspection system from January 30 through February 28, 2002. Enclosed is a copy of the final audit report. Comments by Denmark on the draft final audit report have been included as Attachment "G" in the enclosed final audit report.

FSIS has carefully reviewed the assurances provided by Denmark at the Exit Conference in Copenhagen on February 28, 2002 and the comments contained in your June 26, 2002 response to the draft final audit report. We appreciate your commitment to correct all of the deficiencies found during the audit and will make every effort to work collegially with Denmark to that end.

As you know, two establishments were delisted during the audit. We would, therefore, like to reiterate our policy concerning audit-based delistments. Since establishments were delisted as a result of deficiencies observed during the audit, FSIS will not accept a re-certification of the establishments until the government of the Denmark provides FSIS with a written description of all corrective actions that have been taken. In addition, these establishments will be reaudited on our next systems audit of Denmark's inspection system, provided you have successfully re-certified the establishment for export to the United States. If a re-certified establishment is delisted again during the follow-up audit, FSIS will not accept the establishment as re-certified until FSIS auditors return for another follow-up audit and are able to verify that all deficiencies have been corrected. Please inform all currently certified establishments of this FSIS policy.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the final audit report, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience. I can be contacted by e-mail at sally.stratmoen@fsis.usda.gov, by telephone at 202-720-3781, or by facsimile at 202-690-4040.

Sincerely,

Sally Stratmoen, Chief, Equivalence Section

International Policy Staff

Selly Stratman

Office of Policy, Program Development

and Evaluation

Enclosure

cc: Vibeke Faurby, Agriculture Section, Royal Danish Embassy

Norval Francis, Minister/Counselor for Agricultural Affairs, USEU/Brussels

Joerg Niederberger, Agric./Consumer Affairs, EU Mission to the US, Wash., DC

Philip Letarte, Agric. Counselor, FAS, U.S. Embassy, Copenhagen

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Country File (FY 2002 Audit - Denmark)